

County Executive  
David Villanueva

Governmental Relations and  
Legislative Officer  
Elisia De Bord



## County of Sacramento

Board of Supervisors  
Phillip R. Serna, District 1  
Patrick Kennedy, District 2  
Rich Desmond, District 3  
Sue Frost, District 4  
Patrick Hume, District 5

June 14, 2024

The Honorable Richard Roth, Chair  
Senate Health Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 7510  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2075 (Alvarez). Resident Access Protection Act.  
Oppose (As amended April 25, 2024)  
Hearing: June 19, 2024

Dear Senator Roth:

On behalf of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully write to oppose AB 2075 (Alvarez), which allows each long-term care resident to have in-person, onsite access to visitors during any public health emergency, including any infectious disease outbreak, bioterrorist attack, or natural disaster.

Local health officials acknowledge and appreciate the importance of visitors to the health and well-being of long-term care facility residents; however, AB 2075 limits the authority of **local jurisdictions to take measures necessary to "preserve and protect the public health..."** (Health & Safety Code § 101025.) In addition to protecting communities from infectious diseases, our local public health staff create an environment in which everyone has access to health and wellbeing, including mental and physical wellness. Health officer orders are not issued lightly and aim to use the least restrictive means to prevent disease.

The COVID-19 pandemic was unprecedented and our local public health staff worked diligently to protect communities from the spread of disease. Supplies were limited, health care resources were being stretched, and we witnessed an alarming increase in case rates and deaths. The County's actions to limit visitation in long-term care facilities were issued out of care and concern for the health and well-being of vulnerable facility residents.

We hope to never have to take this type of sweeping action in the future; however, we cannot predict the next infectious disease threat, its transmission process, its severity, or the protective measures needed to safeguard residents, visitors, facility staff, and the broader community.

June 14, 2024

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For these reasons, Sacramento County opposes AB 2075. Feel free to contact me at (916) 874-4627 or [deborde@saccounty.gov](mailto:deborde@saccounty.gov).

Respectfully,



Elisia De Bord

Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer

cc: The Honorable David Alvarez  
Members, Senate Health Committee  
Sacramento County Delegation  
Chair and Members, Board of Supervisors  
Audrey Ratajczak, Cruz Strategies  
Joseph Saenz, County Health Executives Association of CA  
Kat DeBurgh, Health Officers Association of CA